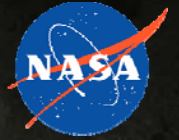


National Aeronautics and Space Administration



**Danny Davis**  
Ares I Upper Stage Manager  
October 21, 2008

**Ares I Upper Stage Update**

[www.nasa.gov](http://www.nasa.gov)

# Upper Stage (US)



NASA Design Team



Instrument Unit  
(Modern Electronics)

Al-Li Orthogrid Tank Structure

LH<sub>2</sub> Tank

LOX Tank

Feed Systems

Ullage Settling  
Motors

Roll  
Control  
System

Helium  
Pressurization  
Bottles

Common  
Bulkhead

Thrust Vector Control

Composite Interstage

**Propellant Load:** 138 mT (304K lbm)  
**Total Mass:** 156 mT (344K lbm)  
**Dry Mass:** 16.3 mT (36K lbm)  
**Dry Mass (Interstage):** 4.1 mT (9K lbm)  
**Length:** 25.6 m (84 ft)  
**Diameter:** 5.5 m (18 ft)  
**LOX Tank Pressure:** 50 psig  
**LH<sub>2</sub> Tank Pressure:** 42 psig





# US Avionics

## The Upper Stage Avionics will provide:

- Guidance, Navigation, and Control (GN&C)
- Command and data handling
- Pre-flight checkout



Instrument Unit Avionics

Aft Skirt Avionics

Interstage Avionics

Thrust Cone Avionics

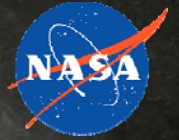
NASA Design Team



Avionics Mass: 1.1 mT (2,425 lbm)

Electrical Power: 5,145 Watts

# What Progress Have We Made?



## ◆ Programmatic Milestones

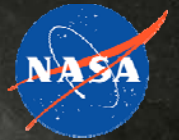
- Upper Stage Safety Reviews
  - Constellation Safety and Engineering Review Panel reviews
- Upper Stage Design Reviews
  - System Requirements Review
  - System Definition Review
  - Preliminary Design Review
- Contracts awarded
  - Upper Stage Production
  - Instrument Unit Acquisition

## ◆ Technical Accomplishments

- 3D Model-Based Design and Production
- System and Process Development
  - Manufacturing
  - Avionics and Software
- Advanced Component Development
  - Main Propulsion Systems
  - Thrust Vector Control Systems
  - Reaction Control System
  - Structures and Thermal Systems
  - Ullage Settling Motor Systems

Upper Stage

# 3D CAD Model-Based Design and Production

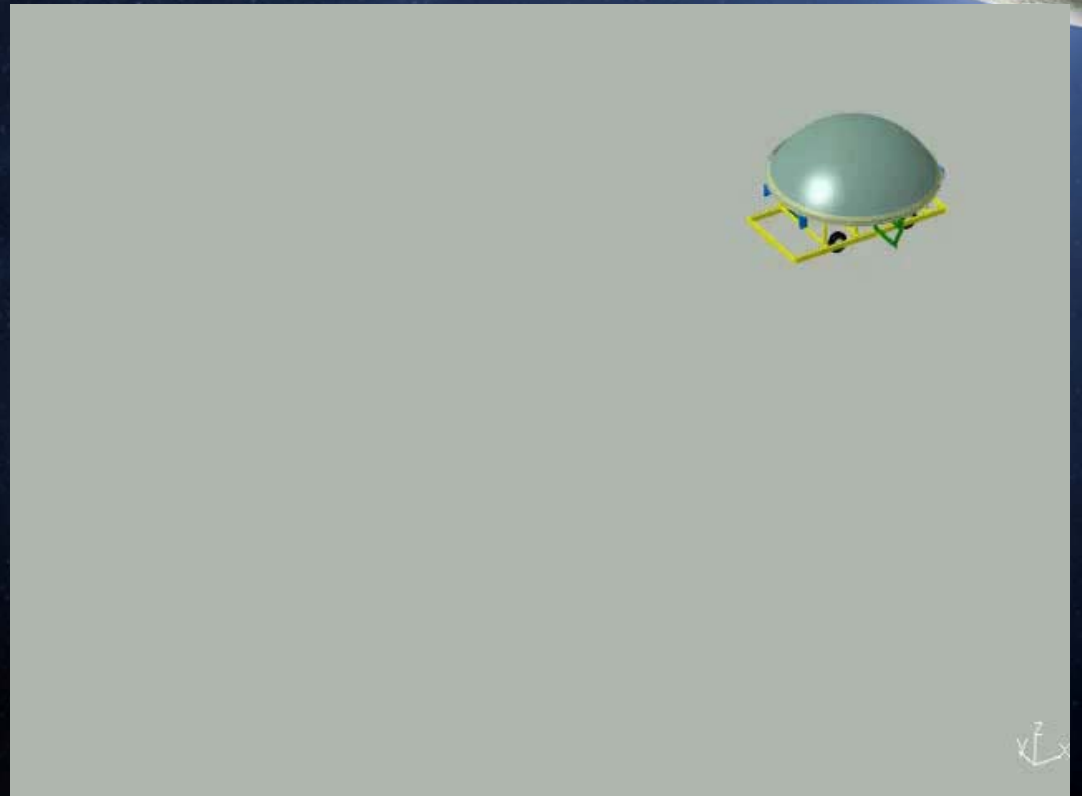


## ♦ CAD Model Standard

- Single source of engineering
- Interface management
- Electronic design, checking and release

## ♦ 3D Models and DELMIA software support Production

- Tooling Design
- Process development
- Electronic floor instructions
- Supports Boeing Manufacturing Execution Software



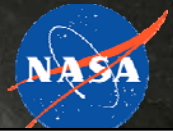




# PROCESS AND SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT

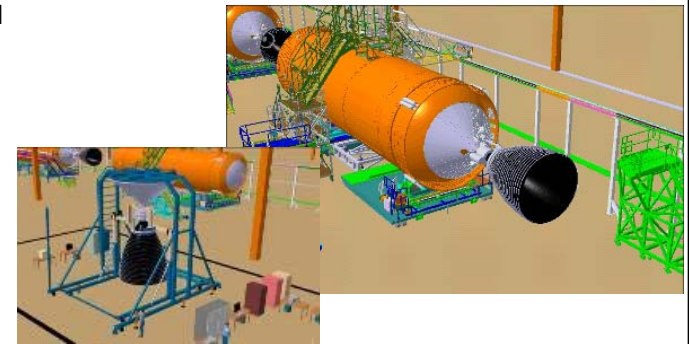
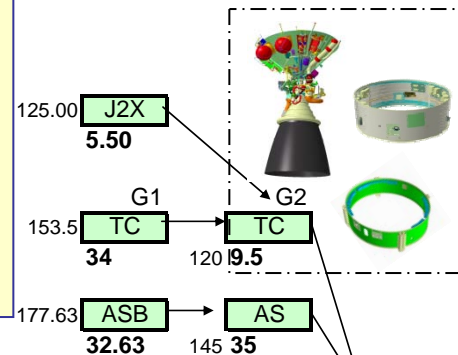
Ares I Upper Stage

# Manufacturing and Process Development



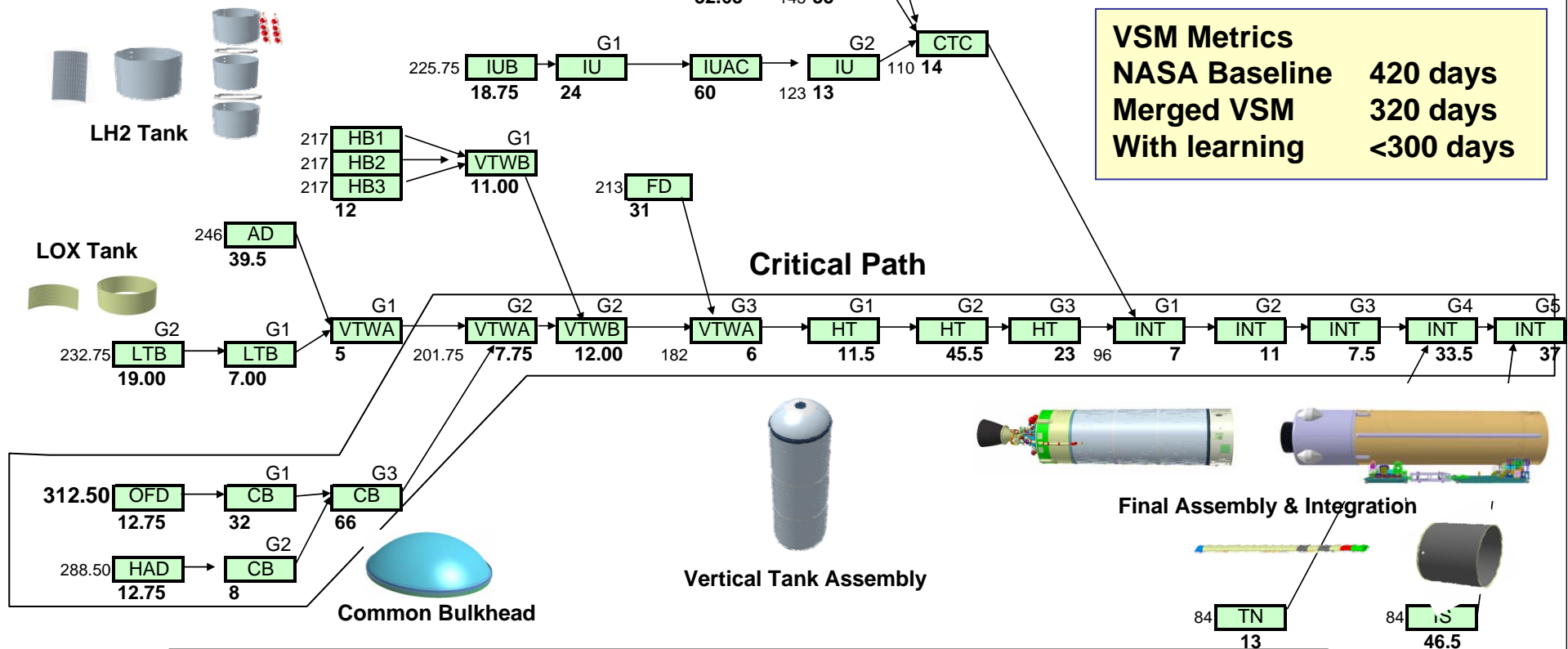
Boeing selected as Production Contractor  
 Manufacturing Value Stream Mapping  
 Producability Summits  
 Virtual Design Reviews  
 Support Component Specification development  
 Tooling Design for MAF  
 Support for MSFC Manufacturing

Common Test Cell



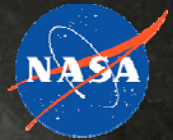
**VSM Metrics**  
 NASA Baseline 420 days  
 Merged VSM 320 days  
 With learning <300 days

Critical Path



**Boeing, Working with NASA, Reduced Assembly Flow Over 100 days**

# Weld Tool Development



Robotic Weld Tool



Friction Stir Weld (FSW) of two sample Space Shuttle External Tank domes gores

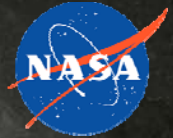
- ◆ **Manufacturing Demonstration at MSFC**
  - Dome Development
  - Common Bulkhead Fabrication demonstrations
  - Barrel Panel Development
  - Thermal Protection System (TPS) Development
- ◆ **The Robotic Weld Tool, the largest welder of its kind in the United States, will be used to develop the manufacturing techniques required to fabricate the tanks of the Ares I US.**



Vertical Weld Tool



# US Avionics and Software Development

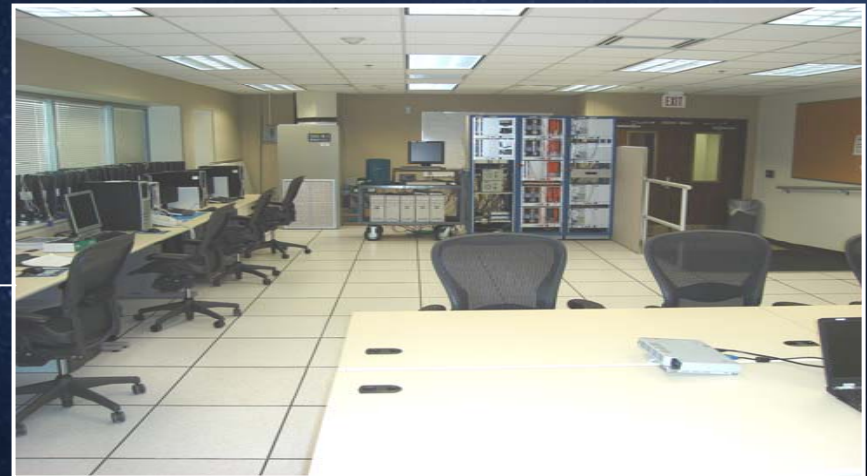


## Lithium-ion Cell Testing

These tests are being performed to provide data in support of thermal model development for the battery assemblies.

## US Flight Software Development Facility

Software Development Facilities for US Flight Software (FSW) for Flight Computer and Command/Telemetry Computer.

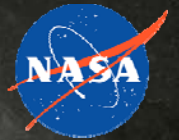


## US Risk Reduction Laboratory

Four upgraded Network Element Cards were successfully integrated into a quad-voting architecture computer test bed and run through initial boot and built-in-test for the US Risk Reduction Laboratory.



# Logistics and Operations Systems



- ◆ **Integrated Logistics supports Design Process**
  - Supportability Analysis for each design cycle
- ◆ **Human Engineering Analysis developed**
  - Physical Mock-Ups in place and used for analysis
  - Digital Mock-Ups developed
- ◆ **Maintenance Concepts developed**
- ◆ **Availability and Cost Models developed**



Facility and Transportation Systems



Design Demonstration Units – IU and Aft Skirt



Digital Mock Up





# COMPONENT DEVELOPMENT

Ares I Upper Stage

# Advanced Component Development

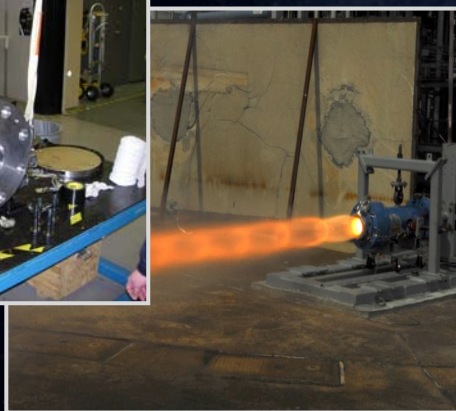


## ◆ Advanced Development Activities

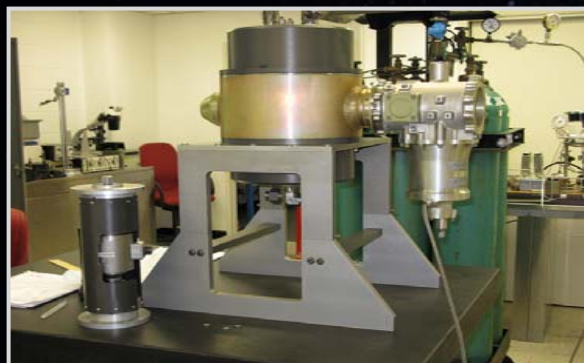
- Ullage Settling Motors (Heavy Weight Motor Test, Igniter Test)
- MPS (Cryogenic-Regulator, Pre-valve, and Vent /Relief Valve Test)
- TVC (Bread-board system test and full 2-axis Rig Testing)
- RCS (Thrusters, valves, regulators, and Integrated Test)
- Structures (Panel Test, Integrated Test, Thermal and Purge)



First Heavy Weight  
Motor Hot-Fire Test



TVC Breadboard  
and 2 Axis Rig



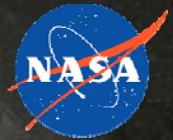
MPS Pre-Valve on the Test Stand



RoCS Thruster Valve



# Current US Development Testing



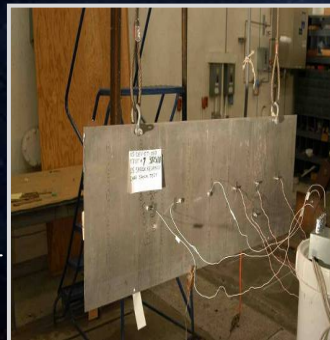
**Forming test on 52" x 52" Orthogrid and Isogrid panels**  
Results demonstrated the ability to form AL-Li panels to the US diameter



**Small panel buckling tests**  
Used to anchor analytical modeling techniques



**Shock Characterization**  
Used to improve prediction of separation shock transmission



**Purge and Haz Gas Testing (GRC)**  
Used to improve modeling of the purge system



**Range Safety Linear-Shaped Charge (LSC) testing**  
Determined correct standoff for best tank wall cut depth; Determines how LSC is mounted in Systems Tunnel

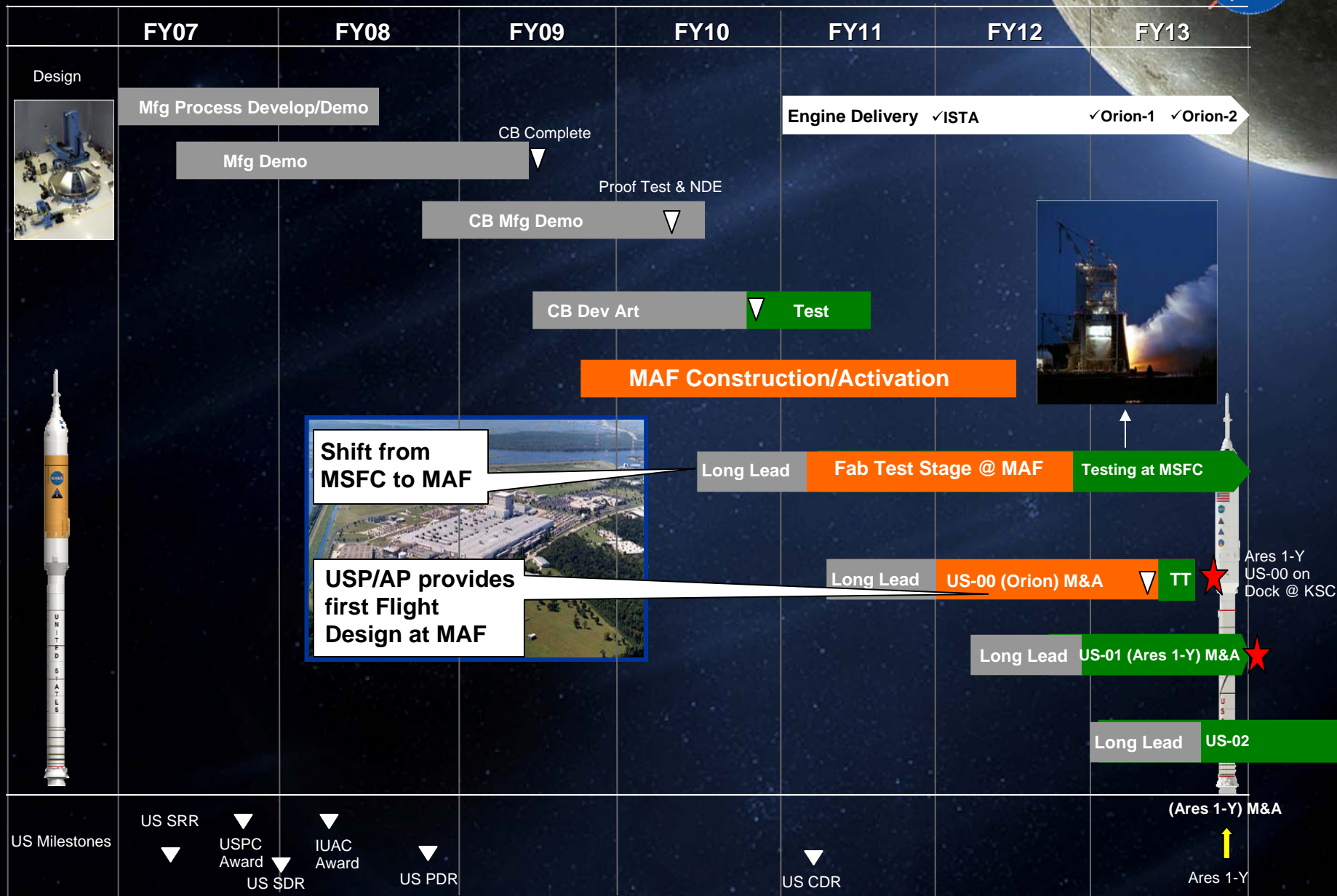
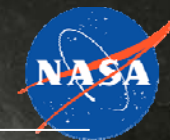


**Umbilical Plate Testing (KSC)**  
Quick Disconnect performance at anticipated rotational angle; Results of the test showed the need to modify the ground side of the umbilical plate



# Ares I Upper Stage Summary

## PMR 08 Rev 1 Re-Plan Preliminary





# Conclusion

- ◆ **Building on the heritage of the Apollo and Space Shuttle Programs, the Ares I US team is utilizing extensive lessons learned to place NASA and the United States into another great era of space exploration**

- Engineering Rigor
- Materials and Processes

- ◆ **The NASA Design Team is using the best from the past along with State of the Art Engineering and Manufacturing Processes**

- Advanced 3D Model-Based and Production
- Lean Manufacturing Techniques

- ◆ **NASA and Boeing US teams are now integrated, working together, and making good progress**

- Safety First
- Performance
- Affordability

*“This Nation has tossed its cap over the wall of space, and we have no choice but to follow it.”*

*-- President John F. Kennedy, 1962*





[www.nasa.gov/ares](http://www.nasa.gov/ares)